Forests), Government of India for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(vi) A National Conference of Forest and Environment Ministers of State Governments was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001, wherein it was resolved to organise the existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control within and outside protected areas.

(vii) During IX Plan period, the area of Tiger Reserves has increased from 33,167 sq. km. to 37,761 sq. km.

Polluted Yamuna water

1754. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Yamuna water continues to be a dirty drain;

(b) if so, whether the water quality of the river as tested on April 3, 2002 showed presence of 37 lakh faecal coliform per 100 ml rendering it unfit for any purpose; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The water quality of river Yamuna along the polluted stretch of Delhi is monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board every month. The monitoring report of April 2, 2002 in the Delhi stretch indicates that the river water quality at Palla where the river enters Delhi is generally within the prescribed standards. However, the water quality deteriorates in Delhi stretch due to the discharge of partly treated & partly untreated sewage and industrial effluents through the 19 drains outfalling into the river and lack of fresh water flow in the river. Out of the 19 drains, 17 drains are outfalling in the Delhi stretch of river between Wazirabad barrage and Okhla barrage and the remaining 2 drains are outfalling downstream of Okhla barrage. The values of Dissolved Oxygen, Biochemical Oxygen Demand and coliform levels at 4 different locations downstream of Palla as compared to the standard values are given below:—

Water Quality of River Yamuna in Delhi Stretch for April 2, 2002

S. No.	Parameters	Standard values	Actual values			
			Nizamuddin	Agra Canal (Mad anpur Khadar)	Agra Canal (Okhla)	Okha after meeting Shahdara drain
1.	Dissolved Oxygen	5.0 miligram per litre or more	Nil	1.2	Nil	Nil
2.	Bio Chemical Oxygen Demand	3.0 miligram per litre or less	27	16	10	44
3.	Faecal Coliform or less	2500 / 100 mili litre	29,00,000	9,70,000	3,40,000	4,40,00,000

(c) Government started the Yamuna Action Plan in 1993 for cleaning of river Yamuna in Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. This project has been completed on 19.2.2003 at a cost of Rs. 668 crore. In addition, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has taken up construction of sewage treatment plants and allied sewerage works at 17 locations in Delhi to augment the sewage treatment capacity to 2325 million litres per day by the end of March, 2003 against the present generation of sewage of 3300 million litres per day. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is also implementing additional pollution abatement works for augmenting the sewage treatment capacity to meet the gap, refurbishing the sewerage system, providing sewerage system, providing sewerage system in unauthorized/regularized colonies, resettlement colonies and urban villages etc. In addition, 15 common effluent treatment plants are also under different stages of completion to treat the industrial effluents generated from 21 industrial estates.

Depletion of forests due to use of firewood

1755. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: